

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 9 and 27 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Withdrawn) The step as claimed in claim 13, wherein said wedge member includes a channel adapted to encompass said flange portion of said main member.

Claims 10-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A step for attachment to a utility pole having a thin wall section, the step comprising:

a main member having a step member with a flange portion formed at a proximal end thereof, a free end at a distal end thereof, and an upwardly facing support surface for a user to stand on, between said free end and said flange portion, and a single attachment portion integral with said step member extending from a face of said flange portion and terminated in a hook extending out from the flange, in alignment with said step member, then up, which in use extends through an aperture provided in a wall of said thin walled section, and

a wedge member which is adapted to slide in a transverse relation to said attachment portion and interpose between said flange and said thin walled section, and abut against a face of said flange portion when in a locking position, to be driven downward to create a compressive force between said hook and said wedge member with said thin walled section therebetween to hold said step member in place.

Claims 14-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The step as claimed in claim 13, wherein said wedge member comprises a body formed with an enclosed slot, and has an inner face and an outer face inclined relative to each other at an angle of from 3.5 to 5 degrees, said inner face and said outer face each being formed with a concave channel of substantially the same shape in cross section along a full length thereof.

25. (Previously Presented) The step as claimed in claim 13, wherein said wedge member is tapered from a first end to a second end and includes a slot extending substantially between the ends of sufficient dimension to accommodate said attachment portion of said main member therethrough.

26. (Previously Presented) In combination, a utility pole having a thin walled hollow section with a plurality of circular apertures through said thin walled hollow section for mounting steps to said pole, and at least one step comprising:

a step for attachment to a utility pole having a thin walled section, the step comprising:

a main member having a step member with a flange portion formed at a proximal end thereof, a free end at a distal end thereof, and an upwardly facing support surface for a user to stand on, between said free end and said flange, and a single attachment portion integral with said step member extending from a face of said flange portion and terminated in a hook extending out from the flange, in alignment with said step member, then up, and which extends through an aperture provided in a wall of said thin walled section and up behind said wall, and

a wedge member which is adapted to slide in a transverse relation to said attachment portion, interposed between said flange and said thin walled section, and abutting against a face of said flange portion relating a compressive force between said hook and said wedge member with said thin walled section therebetween to hold said step member in place.

27. (Withdrawn) The combination as claimed in claim 26, wherein said wedge member includes a channel encompassing said flange portion of said main member.

28. (Previously Presented) The combination as claimed in claim 26, wherein said wedge member comprises a main body formed with an enclosed slot, and having an inner face and an outer face inclined relative to each other at an angle of from 3.5 to 5 degrees, said inner face and said outer face each being formed with a concave channel of substantially the same shape in cross section along a full length thereof, said hook passing through said enclosed slot.

29. (Previously Presented) The combination as claimed in claim 26, wherein said wedge member is tapered from a first end to a second end and includes a slot extending substantially between the ends thereof with said attachment portion of said main member passing therethrough.